

Champions of the Environment

Grant Award Information

Rewarding K-12 teachers and students who are making a difference for the environment!

\$2,000 grants are awarded to five winners in October and again in February. In addition, merit awards of \$400 are awarded to a number of runner-up projects each year.

In addition to the money, grant winners also get:

- A TV commercial made about their project
- Their project listed on the Champions' Web site
- Champions give away items
- A chance to win more money in the Overall Awards

Who is eligible to apply?

- South Carolina's K-12 students, teachers and environmental educators who are working on an environmental project.
- Applicants may be school groups, clubs or individual students in a public, private or home school program.
- Applicants that have not been chosen to receive an award may apply again during the same award year.
- *Eligible projects must address an environmental issue in one or more of the following categories: prevention or reduction of pollution in the air, water or land; waste reduction; restoration, preservation or enhancement of natural areas; water or energy efficiency.*
- *Eligible projects must also educate the community and make a lasting difference to the environment.*



When to apply:

- Applications must be received by September 15 for an October award or January 15 for a February award.
- Winners will be notified by October 1 or February 1.

Sponsored by:



With additional support from the Environmental Education Association of South Carolina

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If you would like to apply:

- Download the application in Word format from the Champions' grant award Web page. Save the document to your computer, fill it out, and email it to the Champions coordinator or mail it to Champions of the Environment, 2600 Bull Street, Columbia, SC 29201.
- You may use pictures or other materials to support your application. These materials may be sent electronically but please follow-up on the receipt of large files.
- If you have any questions about the application or cannot access the electronic version please, call the Champions coordinator at 803-898-4394.

Projects are judged on:

- Benefits to the environment
- Student education and involvement
- Outreach - to students, parents and/or the community

Winners agree to:

- Use the award as stated in the application
- Submit a summary report about the project to be considered for an Overall Award
- Send representatives to the Year-end Celebration held in Columbia at the end of the school year

Checklist for applicants:

- ✓ Application form and narrative section filled out
- ✓ Application submitted in time to be received by September 15 or January 15

Please remember!

- To be considered, the application must be complete.
- DHEC cannot return any materials from the application packet.
- The Champions' selection committee reserves the right to change the number of awards offered as based on funding availability.
- If you have any questions or for more information, please call 803-898-4394.

For more information:

Visit <http://www.scdhec.gov/champions>, to learn more about the Champions of the Environment program. On the Web site you can find out about past winners and get some ideas for an environmental project. You can also call the Champions' Coordinator at 803-898-4394, or send an email to champs@dhec.sc.gov.